

The Historacle

The Official Newsletter of the

Talent Historical Society

Where The Past Meets The Future

206 East Main, Suite C • P.O. Box 582 • Talent, Oregon 97540 • 541/512-8838

December 1999



SOCIETY HOLDS ANNUAL MEET, CITES ACHIEVEMENTS; AWARDS; ELECTS NEW BOARD MEMBERS

On October 16, Talent Historical Society held its annual meeting. New board members were nominated and elected. Lorna DeYoung and John Morrison join reelected board members Katherine Harris and Bud Gleim and holdover board members Myrna Holden, Bob Casebeer and Lynn Newbry. The four newly elected members of the board will serve two year terms.

Yvonne Reynolds, historian for the Society, was acclaimed as Volunteer of the Year for her historical work. Recently she has focused her attention on a historical study of Talent's water supply as well as conducting oral history interviews and helping train two new oral history volunteers.

Alice Burnett, longtime resident of Talent, and the retiring president of the Society, was honored for her many contributions to Talent by being named Volunteer of the Century. Alice has been involved in most Talent improvement efforts since moving to Talent from Portland in 1934. She has been a Campfire leader and with others established a campsite up Wagner Creek for that organization (the site is now part of the County park system). Alice helped produce Talent's newspaper, the *Talent News Flashes*, with the late Mae Lowe for nearly fifty years. She has been a member and officer of the Talent Women's Federated Club, was involved with the Parent Teachers Association when her children were of

school age, and with several other groups. As regards the Society, Alice was a founding member of the historical society, a board member and the past president. She has been a pear packer, a supervisor of pear packers, a grocery clerk, a postal clerk and, last but significantly not least, the mother of five children and grandmother of ten grandchildren and more than a score of great grandchildren.

The assembled Society members heard reports from the officers and heard the annual report read by Bud Gleim, immediate past president of the Society. (A summary of that report occurs elsewhere in this newsletter.)

One of the key features of the program was a book talk by Jeanette Marshall, Society member and the Society's lawyer. Her book *Jaguars, Fish and Microscopes*, a biographical presentation of the life and work of her brother, zoologist Vernon E. Thatcher, and his scientific discoveries—many of which came as a result of his work in Latin and South America. Thatcher attended Talent schools in his youth and was awarded his doctorate from Louisiana State University. He was a prolific letter writer to members of his family and portions of his many letters are a prime focus of the book.

Refreshments and music from the Old Time Fiddlers' Association ended the annual meeting.

Season's Greetings!

From the Talent Historical Society



EDITORIAL

History—truly a story, but often hidden from the view of passersby. Even in a small place like Talent, historical events and historical places—even artifacts—abound. One must, however, look beyond the present, must probe the past so that the things one sees can be viewed in perspective. An example:

Consider the bridge across Wagner Creek on Talent Avenue. Just a bridge, I hear some say. True, but that bridge was built when the Pacific Highway was newly made and that bridge lies on the roadbed of the original Applegate and California Trails which went right through Talent. That bridge was built before Highway 99 was named and numbered, long before Highway 99 was relocated to its present location, and long before I-5 superseded Highway 99. Talent Avenue itself was part of the highway that ran from San Diego to Vancouver, B.C., and was once the longest paved highway in the world. The Pacific highway, a name now usually preceded with the word "Old," was the first automobile road to link the cities of the West north to south. Talent's Wagner Creek Bridge is not as elaborate as those that span the major rivers—the North Umpqua at Winchester, the South Umpqua at Myrtle Creek, or the Rogue River west of Gold Hill—but ours, built in 1914, is just as unique, just as old, and it is ours!

And ours, we understand, is going to stay the way it is. In the planning as Talent Avenue gets improved is a renovation of the historical bridge and some added bike and pedestrian mini-bridges acting rather like the outriggers on a Polynesian canoe. We will actually have our bridge and some new improvements without destroying the historical nature of the original structure. We compliment the City of Talent for this excellent planning.

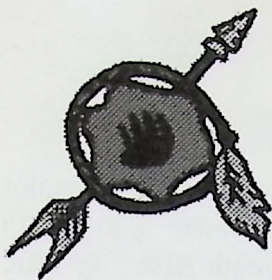
Cecil H. Pozers, Talent, was one of 36 county residents who died in military service during World War I. A member of the U.S. Army, Pozers died of pneumonia.



In 1914, Talent schools offered manual training and home economics courses as did the Wagner Creek school, located where the home of one of the Society's oral historians, Poppie Beveridge, now lives.

THS has lovely new note cards for sale. Think of us when you need cards for special occasions.

THE TALENT HISTORICAL SOCIETY has additional millennium calendars for sale for \$1.50 each!!!



NOT ROGUES, TAKELMAS!



The Native Americans who lived in the central core of the Rogue River Valley were called Takelmas, a name they applied to themselves. The name Rogue River Indians was a name applied by white immigrants to the area. The meaning of the name is either “people of the river” or “those dwelling along the river.” The branch of the Takelma who lived near Talent were called Latgawa, meaning “people of the upland” apparently.

Some Takelma lived as far downstream as the Illinois River and upstream to about the Upper Table Rock area. North and south the Takelma ranged from present day Ashland to the upper reaches of Cow Creek on the South Umpqua watershed. The present Cow Creek band of Umpqua natives spoke the same language as the native bands along the Rogue. That language is called Takelman. Edward Sapir, the famous linguist, secured his Ph.D. by studying the Takelman language.

The Takelma villages along the Rogue River were not clustered together, but were separated by villages whose inhabitants spoke Athabaskan, a non-related language. These villages were not necessarily even of the same tribe, but the several bands spoke related dialects of the Athabaskan language. Sometimes Takelman-speaking villages had Athabaskan names. The implication here is that at some time the Takelma, who may have never been numerous (some authorities think no more than 500 person at this time were Takelma!), had at one time suffered territorial invasion and the area had been settled by Athabaskan speakers who then dominated the region, naming the various sites in Athabaskan dialects, for they would have been more numerous than the Takelma.

The Takelman language seems to have had three dialects—one spoken by the Cow Creeks, another along the Rogue River itself, and the Latgawa dialect used around present Talent, Ashland, Phoenix and Jacksonville. In later years, considerable intermarriage with the Shasta and Klamath, who lived just over the Siskiyou and Cascade passes, seems to have occurred. This may have been a consequence of the summer “rancheria” practice of going to the mountains, camping in multi-tribal camps to gather huckleberries, blackberries and other food or materials available only in the mountains, such as ferns, bear grass for baskets, etc.

However, some fifteen major Takelma villages have been identified, and nearly all of them lie below the Lower Table Rock. One Latgawa village site was in the present Plaza area in today’s Ashland. When the pioneer settlers came to that area, they burned the plank houses of the Takelma. Those houses were made somewhat like the plank houses of the tribes on the lower Klamath River. When the native owners returned, they mourned the loss of their planks which were quite hard to make. Since their homes were gone, that particular band moved out to Neil Creek about where the KOA campgrounds are today.

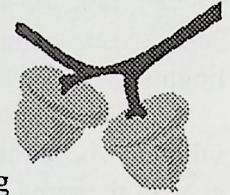
In 1853, “as a party of emigrants descended the slopes of the Greensprings Mountain, one of their number—expressing the group’s love for the new land—was heard to say, ‘This is a great country; this is our journey’s end!’” Quoted by W.H. Gore, a descendant of Rogue Valley pioneer settlers. (Tucker, p. 241)



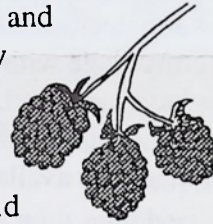
FIRST NATION FOODS: WHAT THE TAKELMA ATE

The Takelma bans native to the Rogue River Valley used a variety of foodstuffs, although the major dietary item was the acorn. While most Native American tribal peoples did not exactly "own" land here in Southwestern Oregon, ownership of specific oak trees was common. On the Klamath River, specific individuals owned the fish dams which were used by the tribes to catch migrating salmon and steelhead. The Yurok, who lived near the mouth of the Klamath River, and were very materialistic, actually "owned" specific fishing holes, and others catching fish in those places had to pay for the fish that they caught.

Acorns were picked before they fell from the trees. At that stage the nuts do not have as much tannin in the meat and are easier to leach. The acorns were picked, apparently shelled, and placed in woven basket-like containers which were submerged in running water so the tannin would leach out of the kernels. The acorns were then ground or pulverized by a pestle, and the meat of the acorn boiled in either baskets or wooden boxes which were heated by insertion of red hot rock into the acorn and water mixture. In places where limestone was exposed along streams, one can see the holes in the rocks where the Indians places ground acorn meat. The limestone acted as an alkali on the acidic tannin, thus neutralizing the tannin and making the ground acorns palatable. The acorns were then used rather like we today use barley or rice in soup and stew. The starchy acorns acted as the base for meat and vegetable stews that were a major part of the local natives' diet. It is thought that some acorns were occasionally baked by the fire, making a sort of acorn "Boston black bread."



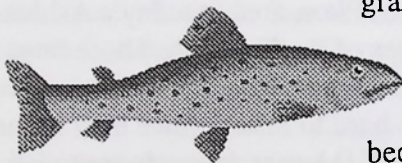
The local bands also ate camas root, pine nuts, hazel nuts, madrone berries, sunflower and tarweed seed. Manzanita berries were considered a delicacy and used to make a sweet drink with a slightly lemonish flavor. The word *manzanita* itself is Spanish and one cultivated crop, tobacco, which they grew gardener who maintains the plantings in the the local tobacco successful. Other as wild carrot, celery, and ramps, a sort of



means "little apple." The Takelma also had from the wild local tobacco plant. The chief Ashland parks has experimented growing vegetables were collected, mainly roots such onion.

Besides these vegetables and

salmon, steelhead, coho salmon, Chinook salmon, crayfish, freshwater mussels, and grasshoppers. (They burned the dry grass to secure the "hoppers.") Venison was eaten, although hunting was difficult. Some tribal groups in Oregon used native dogs, and the Takelma did too. Several men with dogs and with shouting, chased the deer into corrals made of grass ropes. The animals became entangled and were then clubbed to death, only to become barbecue, stew and jerky.



From our present perspective, it must have been tough to have to have to eat jerky, smoked salmon, huckleberries (actually they are whortleberries), hazel nuts, blackberries, and on cold days steaming hot acorn and meat stew. Actually, the Takelma diet was probably more balanced than that of many present valley residents!



Joy to You &
Yours



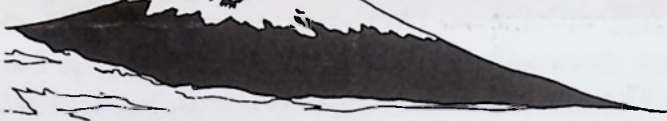
ONCE IT WAS WAGNER CREEK, BUT NOW IT IS NAMED TALENT

Creek Crossing in December 1851, but their names have not survived as marks upon the landscape. The stream, Wagner Creek, honors instead Jacob Wagner who was born in Ohio in 1828 and came to Oregon in 1850. He settled on Wagner creek and that was why it was called Wagner Creek Crossing, but apparently he did not file a claim on the land he wanted until 1852. Most of what is now the central core of present day Talent was built on Jacob Wagner's donation land claim. A plaque which commemorates the location of a fort built on his property during the Native American uprisings of the 1850s is located on the west side of Talent Avenue just a few yards from Wagner Creek Bridge. Fort Wagner, like the stream, was named for Jacob Wagner. In 1862, Jacob Wagner moved to Ashland and with others operated the Ashland Flour Mills which were built on the present day Plaza in Ashland. The mill was powered by water from Ashland Creek.



Talent the town, was named in early 1888 for A. P. Talent, whose house still stands on Front Street. Talent Historical Society member and past board member Dewey Talent in his great grandson. A. P. Talent is the man who platted, or laid out the city blocks, as a townsite. Talent suggested that the town be name "Wagner" in honor of Jacob Wagner, but postal authorities, having another place named Wagner, conferred Talent's own name on the new post office. A.P. Talent had come to Oregon from Tennessee in 1878. He served in the Union forces during the Civil War.

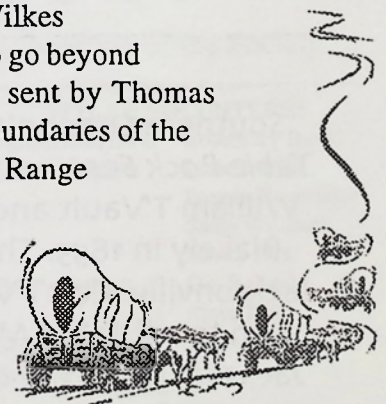
CASCADE MOUNTAINS: NAMES FROM THE PAST



The name "Cascade Mountains" was first applied to the range of mountains that lie east of Talent by David Douglas, the famous Scottish botanist for whom the Douglas fir tree is named. He applied the name to the

range in 1823 while on an exploration trip with members of the Hudson Bay Company. The mountains were first named by European explorers when the Spanish mariner Manuel Quimper called the mountains the Sierra Madre de San Antonio in 1790. Vancouver, the English explorer for whom Vancouver Island is named, called them the Snowy Range in 1792. He also called them the "Range of Rugged Mountains," apparently not quite sure what he wanted to call them!

In 1830 Hall J. Kelley tried to change the name to the Presidents' Range, which is why some of the peaks are named after American presidents—such as Adams in Washington and Jefferson in Oregon. The Hudson Bay Company people named many of the peaks after British dignitaries which is why Mount Baker and Mount Hood hold the names they do. The 1841 Wilkes Expedition was the very first scientific exploration effort by the United States to go beyond the limits of the North American continent (the Lewis and Clark Expedition sent by Thomas Jefferson stayed on the continent even though they went beyond the official boundaries of the United States). The Wilkes Expedition called the mountain range the Cascade Range and all official recognition since 1841 uses that name. The Cascade mountain range begins basically at the Canadian border with Washington State and ends at California's Feather River where the Sierras start.



In 1853, 200 wagons of settlers migrated to the Rogue River Valley.

BOOK NOTES



Periodically, books pop up from library shelves that warrant discussion on these pages. One of these special books is Emel E. Stearns genealogical work, *The Descendants of David Ebenezer and Fedelia Sophia (Cannon) Stearns—Pioneers of Southern Oregon*. The book was printed in Ashland in 1978. A copy is available in the Southern Oregon University Library. This book deals with the family whose name is perpetuated in the Pioneer Stearns Cemetery on Anderson Creek Road and is operated by the Wagner Creek Cemetery Association.

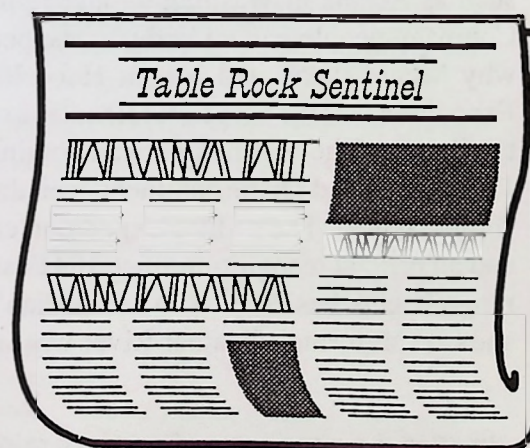
The Stearns family, six of twelve siblings, headed down the Oregon Trail in the spring of 1853 from Illinois. David E. Stearns, who was the leader of the clan at that time, brought his 76-year-old father with him, so seven Stearns and their children made the trip to Oregon. The key features for history buffs are the two diaries which are appended to the introductory family genealogical lineages. Some seventy-eight pages of diary entries written by emigrants Charlotte Emily Stearns (Mrs. Byron Pengra) and her sister Velina Asenath Stearns (Mrs. Issacher Williams) follow the genealogical data. The two diaries record the separation of the family group as they crossed Iowa and they never contacted each other all the way across! One family segment took the Northern route to the Willamette Valley and settled east of Springfield. The other segment took the southern Applegate Trail to the Rogue River Valley. The two groups, thus separated, had to wait a whole year while letters went back to the family members still in Illinois before the two groups here in Oregon got in touch with each other.

The entries are detailed, providing fine glimpses into the hazards and hardships endured. A sample from Charlotte's diary May 4, 1853:

"Last night met with quite a novel accident, sometime in the night I was awakened by the cry 'wo, wo'; and raising my head to see what was the matter, found myself lying not in the tent but outdoors under the broad canopy of heaven. The horses were hitched to the wagon, and the tent ropes also; and by some means they were frightened, jumped back drawing the tent and the wagons after them. The men instantly routed in all the disabellé (disheveled clothing) you can imagine, to repair the damage, but after trying in vain for half an hour to raise the tent we concluded to put our bed into the wagon and fix it in the morning. Out I crawled, took Sis (her 4-year-old daughter), wrapped her in a blanket, put her in the baggage wagon, and assisted and in removing and making our bed, my delicate pedestals paddling in the mud the while... Rained most of the day."

The insights a reader gains of the key assistance pioneer women provided and the concerns they had as they experienced and faced disease, death, childbirth, Indians, floods, mud, and thirst are vivid. The diaries are well worth reading and cause one to understand why there is a statue of a Pioneer Woman in the University of Oregon campus!

Southern Oregon's first newspaper was the *Table Rock Sentinel* founded and edited by Col. William T'Vault and his associates Taylor and Blakely in 1855. The paper was published in Jacksonville. Col. T'Vault, who came to Oregon on the ill-fated Meek Cutoff train, died in Jacksonville in the early 1860s from smallpox.



MUSEUM MUSINGS & MOMENTS

New members since last newsletter:

Lorna DeYoung
 Gia Roland
 Bob Wilson
 Charlotte Long
 Charles & Marian Harlow

Our records of operation for the Talent Historical Society Museum show that museum was open to the public from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays for part of the year (Dec. 1, 1998–April 30, 1999) and then added Thursdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. until November 30, 1999. We were also open by appointment.

| | <u>October Statistics:</u> | <u>November Statistics</u> |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Museum Hours | 111.0 | 94.5 |
| Volunteer Hours | 274.0 | 126 |
| Local Visitors | 50 | 28 |
| Other Visitors | 29 | 11 |



Talent's 89th Birthday Celebration was a success. Forty-seven people attended and all were enthusiastic. Susan Dearborn Jackson's lecture was excellent, and she had wonderful exhibits of folk art and photographs from Mexico. Manuela Marney, President of the Rogue Valley Chamber of Commerce set up an exhibit altar in memory of her mother. The Shepherd of the Valley Church in Central Point donated 20 loaves of "pan de los muertos," for everyone to taste, share and take home. The carrot and chocolate cakes that City Council provided were delicious.

TIDBITS

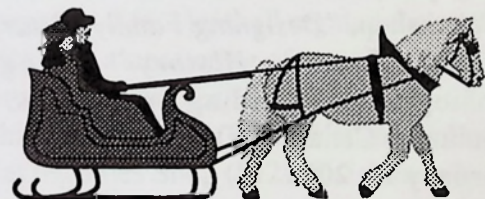
Computer backup—a new backup of the computer was put on zip® disks and taken to the safety deposit box, at VRB, where they will be kept from now on.

Missing Radio Program tape—did anyone pick up a Famous Radio Programs tape last year? We need to return it to the owner who allowed us to borrow it. Please help!

\$\$\$—Received a cash donation from Bear Creek Corporation. Thanks, Bear Creek!

New Board Lineup:

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| President | Lynn Newbry |
| Vice President | John Morrison |
| Secretary | Katherine Harris |
| Treasurer | Helen Seiber |



The Board elects officers at the first board meeting following the Annual Meeting of the Society.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| President | Lynn Newbry |
| Vice President | John Morrison |
| Secretary | Katherine Harris |
| Treasurer | Helen Seiber |
| Directors | Bob Casebeer |
| | Lorna DeYoung |
| | Bud Gleim |
| | Myrna Holden |

Talent Historical Society

MUSEUM STAFF

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Museum Director | Marian Angele, Ph.D. |
| Office Manager | Lisa Overton |
| Volunteer Office Assistants | Gennell Williams |
| | Marguerite Marler |
| | Lorrain Mussack |

TITLED VOLUNTEERS

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Curator/Registrar | Rosemary Bevel |
| Oral Historians | Judie Bunch |
| | Poppie Beveridge |
| | Sadie Williams |
| | Nancy Fox |
| Photographers | Gia Roland |
| | Steve Ray |
| Graphic Design | Alice Ray |
| Grant Writer | Alice Ray |

DOWN THE TRAIL

REST OF DECEMBER

Exhibit "*Greetings from Christmas Past*"
Turn of the last century Christmas cards. Exhibit on loan from the Southern Oregon Historical Society. THS Museum.

December 20, 1999

A Christmas Party for volunteers and members to be held in the Community Center. Short video, apple cider, cake, music, volunteer gift giving (bring an inexpensive gift for a fellow THSer, not over \$5. Or even better, handmade, or baked—like cookies. Why? Just for the fun of it. Time? 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

JANUARY & FEBRUARY

Talent Historical Society exhibit in Museum: "*Memories: Creating a Family History.*"

January 9, 2000

Talent Historical Society Board Meeting, 1:30 p.m. Talent Public Library. The public is always welcome.

January 15, 2000

Workshop, "*Designing Family History*"
Preserving photographs, materials, leather, paper, wood, paintings. Talent Community Center, 1:00 p.m.

January 25, 2000

Volunteer training at the Museum for volunteers and members who may want to become volunteers. Training session at 1:00 p.m. and field trip to SOHS Museum at 2:00 p.m.

January 29, 2000

Workshop, "*Designing Family History—Writing Family History.*" Biography, autobiography, recording oral stories. Talent Community Center, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

February 12, 2000

Workshop, "*Designing Family History—Genealogy.*" This session includes a field trip to the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society Library. The workshop starts at 1:00. The field trip, on which non-workshop participants may go, leaves the THS Museum at 2:30 p.m.



February 13, 2000

Talent Historical Society Board Meeting, 1:30 p.m. Talent Public Library. The public is welcome, and members of the Society are applauded for attending.

February 26, 2000

International Potluck Dinner, jointly sponsored by the City of Talent and the Talent Historical Society. Participants (that means *those who dine*) are asked to bring an international dish to share. Talent Community Center, 6:00 p.m.

MARCH to MAY 15

Talent Historical Society exhibit: "Women and History," in the Museum.



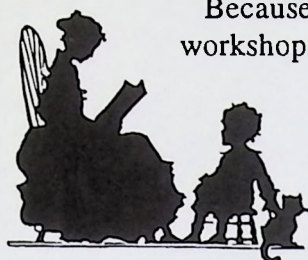
WE WISH YOU A MERRY...

At this season of the year most families give gifts to others. We at the Talent Historical Society want you to consider a visit to our sales shop. Consider some of the following possibilities:

- Annual Membership \$8.00
(and that includes the THS newsletter—a monthly reminder of your gift.)
- Family Membership \$12.00
- Student Membership \$5.00
- A Talent T-shirt \$14.00
"Brains, Beauty and Talent, Oregon"
(with the THS logo on the back!)
- Applegate Trail Commemorative Coins
 - Bronze \$10.00
 - Silver \$15.00
 - Silver and Gold \$25.00
- Jeanette Marshall's new book:
 - Jaguars, Fish and Microscopes
(biography of her brother Vernon E. Thatcher, a Talent native) \$30.00
- Yvonne Reynolds' history of Talent:
Talent—Worth Its Weight in Gold. \$12.95

As time goes by, the question arises, what should be done with those things in the attic, the closet, the old trunk downstairs. What may seem to be an old worn out item can be rich with history of an individual, a family, an event, a community. If one wants to preserve some of that rich history, where does one begin? Not only do we look at things near at hand, but ever since Alex Haley's quest for his "roots"

in Ghana was made into a blockbuster TV series, American families of all hues have developed a deep interest in the background and history of their own lineage...seeking the names of ancestors—their own first chapter of the Gospel of Matthew—so to speak, and the stories of their lives.



Because of this burgeoning interest, the Talent Historical Society has scheduled three workshops (the first beginning on Saturday, January 15 at 1:00 p.m. in the Talent Community Center) under the umbrella of "Designing Family History." The first session, for which preregistration is advised (phone the Museum Office at 512-8838) will focus on preserving photographs, clothing, leather, paper, wood, paintings, etc. The second will be held on January 25 (1:00 p.m., Talent Community Center) and will concern itself with writing family memories and the use of biography, autobiography and oral histories told by family members. The last of the three

sessions will center on genealogy and will be held on February 12 at the Talent Community Center beginning at 1:00. At 2:30 p.m. both participants and interested THS members or community members are invited to join a field trip to the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society and their Library. Given continued interest, other similar workshops and programs may be provided under the direction of the Talent Historical Society. But do remember to preregister for each session—attend just one or all three.

SOCIETY SCHEDULES SATURDAY "DESIGN YOUR FAMILY HISTORY" WORKSHOPS

AUTHORS' PARTY AND BOOK SIGNING DRAWS SEVEN WRITERS, 45 GUESTS



The book-signing party sponsored by the Talent Historical Society drew 45 Talent citizens to the Talent Community Center on December 11. They were regaled by Jeannette Marshall, author of a newly published biography of her brother, Dr. Vernon E. Thatcher, a young native of Talent who has become as world-famous zoologist. Reading portions of the biography, Ms. Marshall regaled the audience with jaguar hunts, political tensions in Central and South America, and a smattering of romance. Her book, titled *Jaguars, Fish and Microscopes*, is available in the Society Sales Shop for \$30.00.

Joining Ms. Marshall was Yvonne Reynolds, former historian for the Talent Historical Society, whose book, *Talent: Worth Its Weight in Gold* and also on sale at the Sales Shop (\$12.95), is the only book whose contents focus on the Talent area. Irene Brady, local illustrator and writer of several children's books, was there to sign her new book on exploring the Red Rock Canyon. H.R. Hulett, Stanford biochemist now living on Wagner Creek, also was available. He is the author of *Life in the Beginning*, an exploration into the origins of life. Joining these writers was Nancy Fox, author of several books, who with her brother Joe Littrell, wrote a biography of their family titled *A Lifetime in Every Moment*. The story begins with the Boxer Revolution and includes their experience living in Hawaii during the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Littrell attended the Olympic games in Germany when Jesse Owens won the gold to Hitler's dismay and disgust.

Other writers who were available to the audience included Gerald Cronk, Joe Myers, and the well-known Rogue Valley writer and publisher Bert Webber.

TALENT HISTORICAL TIMELINE

(Continued to Present Date)

1980-1989

- 1980 Valley of the Rogue Bank is built and banking services once again are offered within the city limits of the City of Talent.
- 1980 Due to population growth, water shortage becomes serious. Water equipment and filtering system installed on Bear Creek. Wagner Creek is no longer the only source of Talent water.
- 1983 Second attempt by the city to deal with "Tig" Dunham's provocative signs. That attempt fails.
- 1984 Old water tower repaired.
- 1985 AARP tax service offered.
- 1989 Talent News Flash ceases publication. Later the City of Talent's newsletter carries on the name, calling its publication The Flash.

1990-1999

- 1990 Population swells to over 4,000 residents. New Post Office building built.
- 1992 Old Brittsan grocery store razed and a new full service grocery store erected on the old site on Wagner Street, named Rick's Market.
- 1993 WalMart builds store on Valley View Road near Wagner Creek.
- 1995 Railroad operation resumes following sale of Southern Pacific Railway. Freight trains once more roll through Talent.
- 1997 Sign controversy with "Tig" Dunham is resolved with his death. Property is considered for city park. Hanscom Hall placed on the Nation Historical Register.
- 1998 Massive flood on New Year's Day wipes out much of the Bear Creek Greenway. Houses damaged on Wagner Creek; one completely demolished. City water plant suffers major damage, prompting efforts to get additional water delivery system.



TALENT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 582

TALENT, OREGON 97540-9766

(541) 512-8838 • talenths@jeffnet.org



Woodville Museum, Inc.
PO Box 1288
Rogue River, OR 97537

THS logo as seen on new Talent T-shirts
for sale in the Sales Shoppe